

## **PART 1**

### **CURRENT STATUS OF CLAIMS**

1. (Previously Amended) A method of administering cyclic use and movement of one or more reusable shipping structures comprising:

a. a first party transferring ownership of one or more empty reusable shipping structures to a second party at a first value  $x$ ;

b. said second party placing materials on said one or more reusable shipping structures; and

c. A third party acquiring ownership of said one or more reusable shipping structures from said second party at a second value  $y$ , wherein the shipping structures have materials thereon;

wherein said second value  $y$  is less than said first value  $x$ .

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of said second party valuing said one or more reusable shipping structures with materials thereon at a second value  $y$ .

3. (Original) The method of claim 2, further comprising the step of said third party removing the materials from said one or more reusable shipping structures.

4. (Original) The method of claim 3, further comprising the step of said third party selling said one or more empty reusable shipping structures.

5. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein a fourth party delivers said one or more reusable shipping structures with materials thereon from said second party to said third party.

6. (Original) The method of claim 5, wherein said fourth party is a transportation service carrier.

7. (Original) The method of claim 12, wherein said second party charges its internal operations a usage fee which is the difference between the first value  $x$  and the second value  $y$ , for each reusable shipping structure put in use.

8. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the first value  $x$  is about that of new or fully reconditioned reusable shipping structure.

9. (Previously amended) The method of claim 19, wherein the second value  $y$  is about sixty percent of the first value  $x$ .

10. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said one or more reusable shipping structures are pallets.

11. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein said pallets are wooden pallets.

12. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said first party is selected from the group consisting of a shipping structure supplier and a shipping structure recycler.

13. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said second party is a product manufacturer.

14. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said third party is a product distributor.

15. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising said first party reselling one or more empty reusable shipping structures to a second party.

16. (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein said third party sells said empty reusable shipping structure for an amount about equal to the second value  $y$ .

17. (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein said third party sells said one or more empty reusable shipping structures for an amount greater than the second value y.

18. (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein said third party sells said one or more empty reusable shipping structure for an amount less than the second value y.

19. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 8, further comprising assigning the value of y based on a value that is less than market value.

20. (New) A cost effective method of promoting the transfer of pallets through cycles of use comprising the steps of:

a. a supplier of pallets, ready for use in supporting goods, physically supplying and transferring ownership of said pallets to a second party user of said pallets,

b. said second party user of said pallets paying a first current market value of said pallets to said supplier of said pallets,

c. said second party user of said pallets using said pallets and placing goods on said pallet,

d. said second party user of said pallets physically supplying said pallets with goods thereon to a third party and transferring ownership of said pallets to said third party,

e. said third party paying said second party user of said pallets less than said first market value of said pallets for said pallets, and

f. said third party transferring possession and ownership of said pallets to a fourth party re-conditioner or supplier of pallets for a second current market value of the pallets.

21. (New) A method of administering cyclic use, movement, and ownership of a reusable shipping structure comprising:

- a. a first party reusable shipping structure provider manufacturing or acquiring ownership and possession of a reusable shipping structure for the purpose of selling the reusable shipping structure to a second party user of the reusable shipping structure at a first market price,
- b. the second party user of the reusable shipping structure using said reusable shipping structure and placing products on the reusable shipping structure, the second party shipping the products loaded on the reusable shipping structure to a third party purchaser and transferring ownership of said reusable shipping structure with products thereon to the third purchaser, the second party user charging the third party purchaser for the reusable shipping structure an amount less than the first market price, and
- c. the third party purchaser transferring possession and ownership of the reusable shipping structure, to fourth party recycler of the reusable shipping structure at a second market price, reflecting the current value of the reusable shipping structure.